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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADINGS

DATE: August 6, 2000

SUBJECT: Jefferson Processing Site (Mingo Junction, Jefferson County, Ohio)

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POLREP #1 - INITIAL (REMOVAL)

II. BACKGROUND

Site ID No: B5C2
CERCLIS No: OHSFN0508038
Response Authority: CERCLA
Demobilization Date: TBD

Delivery Order No: 0042
NPL Status: Non-NPL
Start Date: July 31, 2000
Completion Date: TBD

III. SITE DESCRIPTION

A. Incident Category

CERCLA Removal at an inactive facility

B. Site Description

1. Site location and background

The Jefferson Processing Site (Site) is located on County Road 74 (Gould Road), Mingo Junction, Jefferson County, Ohio. The geographical coordinates for the Site are latitude 40°18'40"N and longitude 81°40'22"W. According to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the property consists of approximately 320 acres located four miles south of

Steubenville, Ohio on the flood plain of Cross Creek. The Site is situated in a mixed rural and industrial area. According to background information, the Site encompasses approximately 61 acres of this property including the following structures: two large furnace/processing buildings (Buildings J1 and J2), an electrical substation (SS), a pump building (Pumphouse; PH), cooling towers, and a laboratory/ office building. Several settling ponds and numerous uncovered slag and baghouse (dust) waste piles surround these structures. The Site is bordered on the east and south sides by Cross Creek along Gould Road and on the west side by Cross Creek along Sheeprock Road. The Site is bordered to the north and west by forest.

In 1958, Vanadium Corporation of America (Vanadium) established the 36-acre ferro-alloys production facility. In the 1960s, Vanadium merged with Foote Mineral Company (Foote). Foote then sold the production facility to Satralloy, Inc. (Satralloy) in the mid-1970s. Vanadium, Foote, and Satralloy used chrome ore to manufacture ferrochrome. Several violations were noted by the Ohio EPA during a PCB Compliance Inspection at the facility in 1988. The findings of this inspection led to a Consent Agreement and Final Orders which were issued to Satralloy, Inc. in 1990. In June 1994, Catherine Glorious purchased the facility and property at a sheriff's auction. After June 1994, approximately 75,000 tons of chrome ore were removed from the Site, and the high-carbon slag stockpiled on site was crushed and screened for resale as a road aggregate by Argo Sales Company, Inc.

2. Description of threat

The Site includes a total of 18 transformers of various sizes with polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-containing oil located in Buildings J1 and J2, the Pumphouse, and the electrical substation (outside). Nine of the transformers are located in Building J1 (J1-A through J1-I), three transformers are located outside (to the southwest of Building J1) in the Substation (SS-J through SS-L), one transformer is located in the Pumphouse (PH-M), and five transformers are located in Building J2 (J2-N through J2-R). One hundred fifty-nine (159) General Electric (GE) capacitors are located in a locked stockroom / repair shop at the southern end (ground floor) of Building J1.

C. Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results

On May 12, 1997, the Ohio EPA conducted a PCB Compliance Inspection to document the facility's handling, storage, and disposal practices and to determine its compliance with the Federal PCB Regulations, 40 CFR Part 761. The Ohio EPA identified seven GE transformers during the inspection in 1997 and issued a citation for violations which were observed. On August 11, 1999, the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) conducted a site assessment under the direction of U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Karla Auker. Laboratory analyses conducted on five oil residue samples collected from around the base of transformers at the Site indicated the presence of low and high concentrations of PCBs on site.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation and Actions Taken

1. Current situation

U.S. EPA, START, and Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) personnel mobilized to the Site with equipment and supplies and setup work zones and a command post the first week. A total of 17 (suspected 18) transformers have been accessed, labeled, and inventoried by

START and ERRS personnel. START and ERRS personnel recorded and compiled specification information (e.g., weights, capacities, current volumes, and dimensions) from the GE nameplates for the identified transformers.

2. Removal activities to date

On Monday, July 31, 2000, the ERRS contractor, Earth Tech, Inc., and the START contractor, Ecology and Environment, Inc., met to discuss the scope of work and health and safety issues.

On Tuesday, August 1, 2000, ERRS personnel mobilized equipment and supplies to the Site and began setting up work zones and a Command Post. OSC, START, and ERRS personnel conducted a walk-through and performed air monitoring in Buildings J1 and J2. ERRS Health and Safety Officer collected composite (bulk) dust samples from Buildings J1 and J2 for asbestos (PLM) and Target Analyte List (TAL) heavy metals analyses. Twenty-four-hour security services began on site.

On Wednesday, August 2, 2000, START and ERRS personnel continued setting up Site Command Post. START reviewed ERRS/Site Health and Safety Plan and submitted comments to OSC. ERRS personnel accessed and identified a total of nine transformers in Building J1 by utilizing a chop saw to open all sealed vault doors. START and ERRS personnel conducted a walk-through in the stockroom of Building J1. A total of approximately 159 GE capacitors were observed in the stockroom.

On Thursday, August 3, 2000, ERRS personnel visually inspected six transformers in Building J1. ERRS also gathered information (e.g., valves, fittings, and sizes) from the GE nameplates for the identified transformers. START began measuring and mapping the exterior and interior features of Building J1. Also, START recorded and compiled specification information from the identified transformers in Building J1 (J1-A through J1-I). Representatives from American Electric Power were on site to assess the electrical power supply on the property.

On Friday, August 4, 2000, ERRS personnel continued to access, visually inspect, and gather information from transformers in Building J1 (Level 2) and J2 (Levels 2 and 3). START and ERRS Response Manager (RM) sampled PCB-containing oil from all three of the exterior transformers at the Substation (SS-J through SS-L). START utilized PCB field screening kits to test the levels of PCBs in two of the Substation transformers. The oil from SS-J contained less than 50 ppm PCBs, and the oil from SS-K contained more than 50 ppm PCBs. START measured and mapped the exterior features of Building J2 and the Pumphouse and recorded and compiled specification information from the identified transformers of the Substation.

On Saturday, August 5, 2000, ERRS personnel continued to inspect and gather information from transformers in Building J2. START inventoried a total of 159 GE capacitors of four different sizes/models in the stockroom of Building J1. START performed air monitoring and assessment activities in the Pumphouse. Also, START began measuring and mapping the interior features of Building J2 (Levels 1-3). A sealed vault for the fifth transformer in Building J2 was located by START. To date, a total of 17 (suspected 18) transformers have been accessed, labeled, and inventoried by START and ERRS personnel.

B. <u>Planned Removal Actions</u>

Phase I: Draining, removal, and off-site disposal of all transformer oils and capacitors.

Phase II: Dismantling, removal, and off-site disposal of all transformer carcasses.

C. **Next Steps**

- START and ERRS personnel to collect samples of oil from the 15 transformers inside Buildings J1, J2, and the Pumphouse for PCB field screening and disposal analysis.
- Demobilization of all personnel following transformer disposal sampling.
- Draining, removal, and off-site disposal of all transformer oils and capacitors following disposal contractor bidding.

D. **Key Issues**

- Transformer oil disposal contractor bidding.
- 24-hour on-site security during demobilization period.

V. COSTS (AS OF 8/5/00)

EPA Costs	$5,673.78
ERRS Costs	$29,300.05
START Costs	$9,172.44
TOTAL COSTS TO DATE	$44,146.27
Project Ceiling	$350,000.00
Project Funds Remaining (percentage)	**87.39%**

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES

No wastes have been disposed of at this time.